

THE
MEMOIRS
OF
King JAMES II.

Containing
An Account of the TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
Last Twelve YEARS
OF HIS
LIFE:
WITH THE
Circumstances of his DEATH.

Translated from the French Original.

Printed by D. Edwards, and Sold by
the Booksellers of London and West-
minster. 1702. Price 1 s.

K. Mary, the Blessed Virgin
Community of the ...

THE
MEMOIRS

OF
JAMES H.

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS TRANSACTIONS

FROM HIS YOUTH TO HIS DEATH

ILLUSTRATED BY
J. H.

WITH THE
CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DEATH

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF J. H.

Printed by J. H. and J. H.
the Booksellers of London and
New York.

THE
Printer's Preface

TO THE
READER.

THE Memoirs of this
Great and Pious
Prince, might (I pre-
sume) have safely been
committed to the World,
without the Sanction of a
Preface, if there were not
a few things, which on my
A 2 Part,

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To the Reader.

Part, as the Printer and
Publisher, I think highly
Requisite to be premis'd:
And first, I think it Con-
cerns me to let the Reader
know, that the following
Sheets are a Translation
from the French Original,
and come to me so Solemnly
recommended, that there is
not the least Grounds to su-
spect, but that they are in-
deed the last Remains of
this Good King.

I hope it will not be ex-
pected, I should say any
thing in Apology for their
Pub-

To the Reader.

Publication. I know the World is Base and Malicious enough, and but too apt to Censure falsely, and to make Infidious Conjectures, but the Honesty of the Design, and the Regard every Man ought to have for the Memory of this Great Prince, will I hope, not only Account for me, but withal recommend the Book it self successfully to the Publick.

The Reader will find in every Sheet, the lively Effigies of a suffering Prince, and a Devout Christian, especially

To the Reader.

pecially in his last Conversation, with his Queen and Children. There indeed He'll see the Picture of his injur'd King drawn to the Life, and perhaps too, meet with some other Circumstances that will entirely Convince him, that he has been the most Abus'd of all Mankind.

*'Tis out of my Sphere, I confess, to enlarge upon these Matters; and yet I cannot help owning, but that there are many Passages in this
little*

To the Reader.

*little Book, so endearing
Passionate and Pious, that
a Man must be, in a Scri-
pture Sense, past feeling,
that is not Affected by 'em.*

*In the Translation, the
Author has been very faith-
ful to the Original : His
being a Foreigner, has made
him, I'm afraid, a little
Deficient in the Beauties of
our English Language, but
that I think is no good Ex-
ception against a Book of
this Nature. This Reader, I
think is all, that is needful
to*

®
To the Reader.

*to be said on my Part, ei-
ther in Apology for the Me-
moirs or their Publication.*

By your Servant,

D. E.

A

Circular Letter

From the

Religious Convent of CHAILLOT.

*Giving an Impartial Account of the
Life, Circumstances and Death
of the Late King JAMES II.
&c.*

THE Death of the late King
of *England*, of Holy and Glo-
rious Memory, is so great a
Loss to the Church, and to
all our Institute, that there are none
of our Monasteries that have not given
us Evident Proofs of their Sorrow, and
of the Share they bear in ours. It's one
of the most Sensible Afflictions, having
lost in the Sacred Person of this Great
Prince, an August Protector, who, since
the Establishment of our House, has Ho-
nour'd it with a particular Kindness.

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The pressing Instances which many of you have made us to give you an Account of some of His Holy Actions, and the particular Circumstances of His Precious Death, which has Edified all *France*; has made us Enable our Selves to gratifie your Pious Desires, by procuring Authentick *Memoirs* from the Court of *England*. We do not doubt, Most Honoured Sisters, but you will be perfectly Edified by the Relation which we are about to make. The kind Acceptance which you gave to what we had the Honour to Write to you the first Year after the Queen came into *France*, gives us an Assurance of it. There would be nothing more Easie for us to do, than to shew you the high Pitch of Perfection to which this Holy Princess is at present arrived, were we not afraid that Her Majesty might see the Letter, and that we might shock her Modesty, wee'll keep close to what regards the King her Husband only; having observ'd, to the greater Honour of God, that according to the Proportion that Humane Misfortunes encreased in the Affairs of this Pious Monarch (since he took his Refuge in *France*) Divine Grace made new Progresses in his Soul. His Majesty did us the Honour to come hither the first *Friday* in *Lent*, in the Year 1689. before
His

His Departure for *Ireland*. After having Adored the most Blessed Sacrament, he went to Pray for the Late Queen, His Mother, our August Foundress, at the Tribune where her Heart is. He gave us Evident Marks of the Satisfaction He had of seeing a House again which He had Honoured with his frequent Visits during the Life of the Late Queen, His Mother. He told us, He was Extreamly pleased with the Thought, that during his Absence, the Queen His Spouse would often come thither to make her Retreat: He Earnestly desired our Prayers for the good Success of His Voyage. Every Body knows that God ordered it otherwise, and that the King came back to *St. Germans* the latter End of *July*, 1690. His Majesty, with the Queen, Honoured us with a Visit on the Feast of the *Assumption*. Her Majesty gave Him an Advantageous Account of the Prayers we had offered up for Him; that we had been heard in what we chiefly Petitioned for, which was the Preservation of His Sacred Person: He then thanked us with His ordinary Goodness, and obliging Civility, adding with a profound Sentiment of Adherence to the Will of God,

It's Just to Submit Our Selves to the Will of God.

He seem'd to us to be in the same Disposition after the afflicting Affair of *La Hogue*. Our most Honoured Sister *Francis Angelica Priolo*, at that time our Superior, making him in the Name of the whole Community there present, the Compliments of Condolance, told Him with Extream Sorrow, That we had all great reason to humble our selves, because God had not thought us worthy to have our Prayers Granted which we offer'd up for the happy Success of His Majesty's Designs.

He return'd her then no Answer, which made her think he had not heard her; so she began again with a more Audible Voice. Then His Majesty answered her with a few Air in the following Words.

' Mother, I heard you very well
' the first time, I made you no Answer, be-
' cause I would not contradict your Sen-
' timents; but you oblige me to tell
' you, That I am not of your Opinion,
' and I must tell you further, I do not
' think it right; for it seems to me as
' if you thought that what you ask'd of
' God were better than what He has
' done; all that God does is well done:
' No further. There is not any thing well
' done but what he does.

She

She afterwards made a Comparison between him and *St. Lewis*, when his great Designs against the *Saracens* were overthrown.

His Majesty humbled himself profoundly, and said : ' Alas, my Mother, do not compare me to that great Saint ; it's true, I resemble him somewhat in my Misfortunes, but I am nothing like him in my Works : He was always Holy even from his Youth, but I have been a great Sinner, I ought to look upon the Afflictions which God has sent me, not as Tryals, but as the just Chastisement of my Sins.

His Majesty did my Lord Bishop of *Autun*, the Honour to write to him upon this Affair ; a Letter which, without doubt will much edifie you.

' I am too thoroughly acquainted with the Kindness and Friendship you have for me, to doubt in the least of the Interest you have in all that relates to me ; God is pleased to shew us from time to time by great Events, That it's he that do's All to make us the more sensible ; That it's by Him that Kings do Reign, and that he is the Lord of Hosts ; Never was Enterprize better concerted, than

' than that of the Descent was by the King,
 ' and never any thing has appeared more
 ' visibly, that God would not permit it this
 ' time, for unless the Winds had been con-
 ' trary to us, and always favourable to
 ' the Enemies, the Descent had been made;
 ' we ought to submit without Murmurings,
 ' to all that happens to us; since we are
 ' assured, That it's God's Will it should
 ' be so; we ought always to Praise him,
 ' put our whole Confidence in him, and
 ' have a lively Hope, that all he do's
 ' is for the best, and never Despair of his
 ' Goodness, &c.

St. Frances
 of Sales.

To know perfectly the Disposition of
 the Soul, of this Religious Prince, one need
 but read the Sixth Chapter, of the ninth
 Book of the *Love of God*, writ by our
 Holy * Founder. It was out of this Divine
 Book, and that of the Introduction to a
Devout Life, that he drew the Rules of
 his Conduct. He did us the Honour to
 tell us, That he never passed a day with-
 out reading a Chapter out of one or other
 of them: That there was no purer Do-
 ctrine, nor more conformable to the
 Gospel, than that of this great Saint.
 There was some Discourse once of a Letter
 that made a great Noise in the World, in
 which it was said, (to his Praise) That he
 had thanked the King for the Assistance
 which

which he had given him : That Affairs having so ill Success in the Enterprize of *La Hogue*, he would have him to entertain no further thought of his Interests : His Majesty answered,

‘ I have infinite Obligation to the King,
 ‘ and I can never sufficiently Acknowledge
 ‘ them, but as to the Letter in Question;
 ‘ it’s none of mine, I have not writ it. I
 ‘ am a Father, and I am a King; I cannot,
 ‘ and I ought not to abandon the Interest
 ‘ of my Children, nor of my Subjects;
 ‘ And I will never abandon them; I’ll al-
 ‘ ways do what depends on me to do,
 ‘ and after submit to what God Almighty
 ‘ is pleased to order.

He spoke this with that Greatness of Soul, that we cannot enough Admire it, and his Acknowledgments for the King’s Goodness. It was not only upon this occasion, but almost in all his Discourse; He extolled the Generosity and Bounty of our Great Monarch; He stiled himself his *Almoner*, and took pleasure in that Title.

‘ I Receive, *says he*, of his Bounty a Subsistence for my Self and Family; and besides, a Supply to assist so many miserable People, who would otherwise perish without this Charitable Succour.

We

We are fully perswaded that his own Misfortunes touched him, nothing in Comparison of that of his Subjects; we observed in him the Heart of a Father and a Friend, not only for his faithful Subjects and Servants, but even for his greatest Enemies; he pray'd for them; he never spoke of them, but when he could speak good of them.

He often told us, ' That he looked on ' the Prince of *Orange* as one of his best ' Friends, for none had done him so much ' true Good as he. That to speak the Truth, ' it was not his Design; but that God had ' made use of him to Chastise Him, and to ' make him enter into himself.

We do not believe, That ever any carried Christian patience to so high a pitch as this Religious Prince did: He never complained of the Persecutions he suffered, nor of the Sorrow he endured.

He was not Ignorant of any thing that was said or writ against him, he resented Injuries and other Misfortunes with all the Vivacity of a Great Soul; but the great Love he had for Penance changed all his Afflictions into Consolations. We look upon him as another *David*, who gave God thanks for having humbled him, and
a Se-

a Second, St. Stephen, who saw the Heavens open while the Jews stoned him. He placed in the Number of the great Graces and Favours he had received from God, his Conversion to the Catholick Faith, and all the Afflictions that followed it.

I owe, says he, to my first Misfortunes, the Knowledge of the true Religion; and to my Second, of having Learn'd to be a good Christian.

The Vigil of all Saints speaking to our Superior, he told her in Confidence with a transport of Fervor. I beg of you to assist me, in giving him Thanks for the Mercy he has shewn me, in giving me Time and Means to do Penance: I am fully perswaded it's very Advantageous for a Man to be humbled since without Humility none can be Saved and one can never become Humble without Humiliation; As it's not for Kings to abase themselves, God takes Care to do it when he purposes to Save them. I thank him with all my Heart, that he has been pleas'd to Humble me, since it's an assured Mark of my eternal Salvation.

There was found after his Death a Prayer, which he had Compos'd, writ with his own Hand, which let's us see
C the

the true Sentiments of this Heart, in so lively and touching a manner, that we think our selves obliged to report the very words.

I Give Thee, O my God, from the bottom of my Heart my most humble Thanks, for that Thou hast been pleas'd to take from me my Three Kingdoms. Thou hast rous'd me by this Means from the Lethargie of Sin, in which, if I had continu'd to sleep, I had been for ever lost. It's an Effect of thy Goodness, that Thou hast been pleas'd to Banish me into a strange Country, where I have learn'd to know the Devoirs of Christianity, and done my utmost Efforts to perform them; such has Thy Goodness been towards me. After that I had been sometime in this Kingdom, and at La Trappe, to improve me by Thy Holy Grace to arrive at that Perfection whither Thou hast call'd me, and to do my utmost to live like a good Catholick. Thou knowest I have endeavour'd to fulfil the Devoirs, after I had been at that holy House, tho' it was not with all that Perfection that I might. Therefore I most humbly beg Thy Mercy to grant me the Grace to Perform them, through Jesus Christ thy Son, who liveth and reigneth, &c.

'Tis observ'd that the frequent Retreats which this Prince made at *La Trappe*, of which the first was in 1690 were not only a Source of Consolation for him; but also the Means that God made use of to wean him from the World and all Created Things; and to induce him to make visible Progresses in Sanctity. We have sometimes had the Honour of seeing His Majesty at his coming out of those Retreats; He seem'd to us to be pierc'd with eternal Verities, and with that Spirit of Penance which reigns in that holy House. He admir'd the happy Death of many of those good Religious Men, of which He had been an Eye-witness, and took great Satisfaction to entertain us with it; but if he was edified with their fervent Devotion, they were no less with that of this Pious Monarch.

See here what the holy Abbot writ of it a Year before his Death to our most honour'd Sister *Mary Frances de Harlay*, a Nun of the Monastery of *Melun*, who was pleas'd at our earnest Entreaty, and for our Edification, to give us a distinct Copy of it. As to the rest, I'll tell you concerning the King of *England*, that I have seen nothing Greater, nothing more Elevated than He;

The Dispositions which God has given him are such, that when I consider Him, and place by Him all that has given the greatest Lustre, and is the most Admirable among the Antients, I find that he equals it, and that he comes near all that has preceded Him. I mean those Men that have rendred themselves Famous by the Sanctity of their Lives, and by the Patience with which they have suffer'd the Misfortunes and Afflictions that have fallen to their Share: He has seen the Loss of Three Kingdoms, with a Constancy equal to all that we read of in History.

He speaks of his Enemies without Heat or Passion, and without making use of those Expressions that sometimes escape the most Perfect. He praises God with the Holy Prophet, for the Persecutions and Humiliations which he endur's. He keeps a certain Sweetness in all his Conduct, which perswades us that he is in the World without Pain and without Affliction, and as if all things smil'd upon Him, and were favourable to Him; and he could not possibly have a greater Tranquility and Evenness of Mind, than is observ'd in all the Circumstances of his Life. Every day is regulated with so great an Exactness,

Exactness, that there is no time unprofitably spent; To conclude, the King either prays to God, or speaks of Him, or reads Books which hinders him from loosing his Holy Presence, and which teach him to fear, love and serve him. And unless he be oblig'd to spend some time about necessary Affairs, or in Conversations, which he cannot dispence with, it may be said that all his Employments carry him to God, and entertain him with the Desire and Will of pleasing Him.

The Sentiments of the Queen are in every Point conformable to his; She has the same Disengagements from Things here below. She looks upon that which is here call'd *Goods*, but as Flashes of Lightning that pass away in a Moment, which have neither Solidity nor Truth, but deceive those that set their Hearts upon them. These Dispositions which are the pure Motions of the Spirit of God, set's them above all the Difficulties, and all the Pains which happen to those whom he loves most. His holy Will either permitting it, for their Tryal and encrease in Vertue, or for the Edification of those of whom they are known. In a word, I see nothing this day greater in the World,
than

than this holy Union which God has made between those two Great Souls, whom he has determin'd from all Eternity, to be a Spectacle or an Object of Admiration to Men and Angels. If Their Majesties pass by your Monastery, as you hope, doubt not my Sister, but I will share with you in the Joy, and Benediction which you will receive from their Visit; as to my self, I confess to you, that I find my self in Spirit every where with them, tho' in Body I cannot follow them, in that I cannot express the *Attack* that God has given me to their Sacred Persons. Pray for me, &c.

He begun from the Voyage to *Calis* in 1696, to Communicate twice a Week, which he afterwards always did. He kept his Conscience so clean and pure, that he could not conceive how one could suffer voluntary Distractions at their Prayers, or commit other Faults with Reflection. He was so exact in his Exercises of Devotion, that he never omitted them for any Business or Indisposition. In the latter Years of his Life, he could not without Uneasiness either speak, or hear Discourse of wordly Affairs: But when he was at Liberty to speak of God, or Vertue, he

he would never have made an End, if he might have followed the Bent of his own Inclinations.

God power'd into his Soul great Sweetnesses and interior Consolations, giving him a Taſt in this World of the *Hundred fold* he has promis'd in the Gospel, to those who have left all for him, which is felt but not ſeen. He was penetrated with the Acknowledgement of his Infinite Goodneſs, and his Heart was fill'd with ſo firm an Hope and Confidence in it, that he doubted not of the Pardon of his Sins; He ſaid he felt a profound Peace, becauſe he was fully perſwaded, that God was content with his good Will.

God is Juſt and ſees all, ſays he. He knows the deepeſt Secret of our Thoughts: He knows that I have a ſincere Sorrow for having offended Him, and that if it were to be done again, I had rather ſuffer all ſorts of Pains and Torments, rather than offend him. I am not only Content to have abandoned All for Him, but I would Sacrifice all the Kingdoms of the World, if I had them for his ſake.

This great Tranquility did not hinder the ardent Deſire he had of doing Penance, which

which encreas'd every day in him; He did voluntary Penances by the Austerities which he practis'd, so little made use of by Persons of his Rank. We have seen since his Death the Iron Chain and the Discipline he made use of, but he so carefully hid his Mortifications, that the Queen did not find them out till a long time after, having found them by chance, in a Closet he had forgot to shut.

It may be said, without Exaggeration, That in these latter Times this Holy Soul did Live no longer for her Self, but only for her God. He bore his Life in patience, and had Death in desire; He desired to go out of this World, not to put an end to his pains, but to the Reign of Sin in him; in this Disposition he Contemned all the Grandeurs of the World. It was told us some time ago, That the president of the *English* College, speaking to him of the Recompence he might expect, after having left all for God: The King Replied,

I have left nothing, I have been a great Sinner; Prosperity would have Corrupted me, I should have Lived in Disorder; Or if I had not left off Sinning till

Old Age had Seized me, I should never have had Time nor Opportunity of Entering into my Self, nor of making the necessary Reflections upon my wretched State and Condition. God in his Mercy has afflicted me, and has given me Time and Grace to think on my Salvation. I have never desir'd on my own Account to be Settled upon my Throne again.

His Zeal for the holy Church was incomparable; his Faith was so Lively and Excellent, that we have heard Persons of great Merit and Capacity, say, That the Words of our Saviour to the Centurion, might fitly be apply'd to the King of England. I have not found so great Faith in Israel. In this manner we have heard him speak upon several Occasion; we believe he had the Grace of Martyrdom, and that if the Divine Providence had been pleas'd to put him in the Circumstances of Suffering the most Cruel Torments, he would have Suffer'd them with Joy to support his Religion. He was an Enemy of all Delicacies, and of Flattery, he could not endure either of them. He held it for a Maxim, that none ought to be prais'd to their Face. He often made Answer to the Harangues, and other Marks of Respect which were given Him; We

ought not to judge of things, but as God judges, nor to set any greater Value upon them, than we believe he sets, and never to speak of them but with Conformity to that.

Since the Death of the late Queen our Foundress, we have every Year a Solemn Service for the Repose of her Soul, the 10th of September. The King and the Queen have every Year since they were in *France*, attended at this Solemnity; they heard together the *Lauds* of the Dead, which we sing near the Place where her Heart is, and afterwards the *Mass*, the *Libera*, and the *de Profundis*. After the Ceremony is over, Their Majesties went to visit the Infermeries, if there was any sick then return'd to their Apartment. All Dinner-time the whole Community had the Honour to be present, and stay'd afterwards an Hour or two in Conversation, where Their Majesties always gave us new Marks of their Royal Bounties. One day the King did us the Honour to give us a particular Relation of his Conversion, and of the Death of the late King his Brother, in the same manner as it is writ in the *Memoirs*, which he caus'd to be printed; and Their Majesties earnestly desir'd us to pray for him,

him, being fully perswaded that he died in the State of Grace. Another time this Pious Monarch made a very Natural Portraiture of the Employments of Worldlings, who are govern'd by the Passions of Ambition, Love, Pleasure, and Avarice, and concluded that none of them were contented, because they always desired more than what they had; and addressing himself to us, He said; *Take it for certain that you are the only happy Persons in the World. Yes, the onely.*

His Majesty scarce ever made a Visit, but he repeated to us the same Thing, adding, *When I call you happy, I suppose you to be such as you ought to be, That is to say, Entirely mean'd from the World. He that knows the World, well despises it, and he that despises it, is Master of it. As for myself, I have more Reason to despise it than any Body else; For I know it better than any, and I equally despise its Esteem and Contempt.*

Upon a like Occasion, His Majesty spoke of the Happiness of Suffering something for God. He spoke upon that Subject all that is most moving; He dilated himself upon the Obligation we have to take up our Cross and fol-

low our Saviour, who had carried it first, and given us an Example, That our Saviour would not let us carry it alone, but that he would help us; and that we ought to believe that God never lays a greater Burthen upon us than we are able to bear; That the Love of Suffering is a certain Proof of that we have for God. This Holy King added,

That he had often made Reflection upon that which Men do to preserve their Health, and a Temporal Life which lasts but a very little Time; and on the other hand, the little they do to gain Eternity: Men easily take up a Resolution to let an Arm or a Leg be Cut off, and to Suffer other Violent Operations, but few have Resolution enough to Suffer Pains for their Eternal Salvation.

Among the Discourses of Piety, which this Religious Prince made to our Community, That in which He spoke of the Necessity of Preparing our selves for Death, was the Largest and the Strongest; In this, He had a predominant Attraction, and Inspired it into every Body, and never lost any Opportunity of speaking of it; He did not so much Discourse upon the Subject

ject of the Importance of Dying well, He would that one should desire Death because of our Frailty, and the frequent occasions we have of Offending God. The Queen, who was Uneasie to hear His pressing Agumments of quitting this Life, Interrupted Him in one of His Entertainments, and told Him, She believed it was a greater Perfection to leave our selves to Providence, and that there were none but great Saints that ought to desire Death. The King Replied,

And I believe, That if a Sinner newly Converted were Surprized by Death, without having done the Penance he purposed to do, he would for all that find Mercy; Because God would make an Account of his good Intentions. I am a very great Sinner, and notwithstanding, I desire Death with all my Heart.

The Queen said, That this Disposition of the King was no new one; that He had had it a long Time; that She was afraid it was some Prefage of His Death; and Addressing Her self to the King, She told Him, That She looked upon the Conservation of His Person, as necessary for so many Catholics, and Advantageous to the Honour of

of God. This Great Prince Replied, and told Her,

That it was want of Faith to think that the Life of a Man was Necessary.

The Queen Replied, with Tears in Her Eyes, Is it possible, Sir, that you should Reckon for nothing, both me and my Children? What will become of Us, if You should fail?

God Almighty would take Care of You and Our Children, Answer'd the King, For what am I but a frail Man, who can do nothing at all without him? And he has no need of me to Execute his Designs.

One of our Sisters coming near His Majesty, said to Him, Sir, we perceive that the frequent Discourses upon the Subject of Death Afflicts the Queen, we most humbly Beg of you You to speak no more of it to Her.

I do it on Purpose, says the King; for it's a Thing that will infallibly come to pass. She ought to accustom her Self to it, according to the Course of Nature. I must go first.

He

He did us the Honour to tell us, that he often read the Little Book of the holy Desires of Death, of the Reverend Father *Lallement*, one of the Religious of *St. Geneveve*, and that of the difference between *Time* and *Eternity*. Written by the Reverend Father *Nieremberg*, a *Spanish* Jesuite. His Majesty told us upon the Subject of the latter, that in the beginning of the Revolutions of *England*, a Lord of the Court said to Him, That that vexatious Affair hindred and broke his Sleep.

I'll give you, says the King, a Remedy which will much help you. And presenting him with this Book, He said to him; Take, my Lord, Read this Book, and I assure you, you will sleep; for since I have read it, I have slept quietly in the midst of my Misfortunes.

His Majesty did us the Honour to give us the same Book, which we have communicated to a great many Persons, who have made use of it, and drawn from it great Spiritual Advantages.

At his first coming into *France*, He honour'd us often with his Visits, coming to hear the good Preachers that preach'd before the Queen; and other times

times at his return from Hunting, to carry back Her Majesty; but fearing those frequent Visits might be troublesome, by drawing too much Company. He did us the Honour to tell us, that to avoid this Inconvenience, he was resolv'd to deprive himself of one of his sweetest Consolations, which was that of coming often here. And after that time, he never came but once a Year, and sometimes in coming back from *Paris*, where he had spent some Days of the *Holy Week*, to Assist at the Office of the Church; but upon these Occasions he only came in, and went out to carry away the Queen. He highly extoll'd our Constancy in refusing Benefices, and in never going to the Baths and taking the Waters. He said he had lately taken our Part, and that of the *Carmelites* upon this Account, and defended the Austerities of the Fathers of *La Trappe*.

It's free, says he, for every one not to enter into those Sorts of Orders. No body is forc'd to it; but when once they are engag'd, they ought to do their Devoirs at the Expence of their Lives.

The last time that His Majesty honour'd us with His Royal Presence, which

which was the Day he took his Journey for Bourbon, He spoke to us these Excellent words.

We ought to take Remedies because God hath ordained them; We ought to be willing to be Sick, because God Almighty Will's it; We ought to Endeavour to get our selves Cured, the better to serve him; All these States and Conditions are Good, since God Wills them; and We ought to be Content, since we may please him in all those Stations which he placeth us.

He was humbly entreated, That the Community might have the Honour of seeing him; He was extreamly pleased with the Request. He recommend himself to our Prayers with an Humility that struck us with Confusion, and with so much Goodness, that it seemed he had a Prefage, that this was the last time which proved too true, we never being so happy to see him again after that time.

It may be observed by what we have writ, which is most true, That this religious Prince never Honoured us with his Visits, but that He animated us to Vertue, to the Contempt of the World, and the esteem and value of our

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Holy

Holy Vocation, to the Desire of Eternity, and to the perfect Love of God. We looked upon him with Veneration; we thought we saw the Great St. *Lewis* holding Holy Conferences with the religious Nuns of *Maubuisson*, *Poissy*, and *Langchamps*. We gave Attention to His words as Oracles of the Holy Ghost, they made a deeper Impression in our Hearts than the most eloquent Sermons, they will never be effaced out of our Memories; we'll leave them to those that succeed us as a precious Treasure, which with the Heart of this Blessed Monarch, will be to this House a Source of Blessings.

*Third of
May.*

It's remarkable, that He was Crowned at *London* the Day of the Festival of the Invention of the *Holy Cross*, and it seems that God had predestinated him to be made conformable to the Image of *Jesus Christ* Crucified, whose Kingdom was not of this World; this perfect Disciple of our Saviour has found the Cross in his Crown, and by the Cross we do not doubt, but He is put in Possession of the Crown of Immortality.

He himself making Reflection upon the Day of his Coronation, and explained Himself to this Purpose to my Lord
Abbot

Abbot of LaTrappe, in whom he had a perfect Confidence: See here the very words of the Letter.

To Day is the Feast of the Holy Cross, the same Day that I was crowned at London; God has had the Goodness to give me since that time a great many several Crosses, which have brought me back to him, in letting me know, that it's by him that Kings do Reign; That he Disposes of all as he Pleases; That all that is in this World is but Vanity and Affliction of Spirit, and that at same time the Crosses that he sends us are more to be wished for, than all that the World can Promise and give. I can never enough Praise his Divine Mercy, that has made me sensible of these saving Truths, so little known to the greatest part of Men, especially those that live in the wide World, who never call to Mind the words of our Saviour: That we must renounce our Selves, take up our Cross and follow him. I have been formerly a stray'd Sheep, but now by the infinite Mercy of my God I am thoroughly sensible of my former going astray: I can never sufficiently Acknowledge his Goodness, in sending me so many Crosses, being willing to suffer in this World rather than in the next. I beg to obtain the Grace to support me in the Efforts

which I make, that I may make the right Use of the Helps which God has given me to submit my Self entirely, and without Murmuring to all that he shall be pleased to Ordain and Dispose of me.

Hitherto most Honoured Sisters, your Charities may observe, That we have only entertained you with that which we have seen with our Eyes, in the Visits which this Holy King Honour'd us with : We are now going to give you an Account of his last Sickness, and precious Death drawn from the *Memoirs* which we have received of it.

After the Fit of the Palsie, which seized His Majesty the Fourth of May, 1701. the Physicians were of Opinion, that the Waters of *Bourbon* might contribute to the recovery of his Health; He went thither in the Month of April, and the Queen accompanied him. Their Majesty's Honoured our Monasteries of *Montargis*, *Nevers* and *Moulins* with their gracious Visits. The Queen has often told us of the great Edification she had, and the Pleasure she took in seeing so great an Uniformity, and Union among all the Daughters of the *Visitation*, which is an inestimable Good. There's no occasion where Her Majesty
do's

do's not praise those dear Communities,
and do's not shew a particular Esteem
for their most Honoured Mothers.

The King took the Waters of *Bourbon* with very good Success; His Strength encreased to that Degree, that He was able to mount a Horseback, and to go a Hunting the Sixteenth of *August*. This glimmering of Health continued but a while. It was observed, that all on a sudden he grew Weak, and that he could scarce walk, and that he could not Eat as he used to do. He complained of a Pain in his Stomach; the spitting of Blood, which began some Days before his Journey to *Bourbon*, and which had ceased for some time, began again. He was eased a little by a light Purge, and he was thought to be better; when on *Friday* the Second of *September*, His Majesty found himself ill in the Chappel, where he heard Mass, before it was ended, He was carried back into his Apartment. *Sunday* the Fourth of *September*, about two a Clock in the Afternoon; the Physicians found him very ill, having a very irregular and weak Pulse, he was put to Bed.

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The Queen being come to him, He ordered Father Sanders to be sent for, to hear his Confession and prepare him for Death. After he had done his Confession, He cast up a little coagulated Blood, having not Strength to Vomit as much as was needful; He was in great Danger of being choak'd, which made him fall into a great Syncope, but being recovered, He earnestly desired the last Sacrament, which was already sent for to the Parish Church.

He sent for the Prince of Wales, thinking it would be the last time he should see him. He had not been told the weak Condition his Father was in, so that entring into the Chamber, and seeing the King all covered with Blood, Pale and Dying, his Eyes set: He began to cry aloud, casting himself all in Tears into the Kings Arms.

The King embraced him tenderly, and said unto him: *My Son, I have but Four words to say to you, in giving you my Blessing, which I give you with all my Heart. Be a good Catholick, fear God, obey the Queen your Mother, and stick always close to the King of France.*

The

The Physicians being afraid, that the Emotion in which the King was, might encrease his Vomiting of Blood, and put him out of a Condition of receiving the Blessed Sacrament; would have the Prince to withdraw from between His Majesty's Arms, which afflicted both of them in such a manner, that it made every Body weep; The King with the little Strength that remain'd embrac'd the Prince, and said, *Do not take away my Son, Let me bless him once more, and saying to him, Never part from the Catholick Church; We can never loose too much for God.* He Blessed him with the Sign of the Cross: The Prince was afterwards oblig'd to withdraw.

The Blessed Sacrament which Monsieur Bennet brought entring into the King's Chamber, he said, when he saw it.

See now, O my God, the happy Hour is come, which I have so much desired. Let us go to God Sir, I am prepared, and added, I Charge you tell the King from me, That I desire to be Buried in your Church without any Ceremony, Pomp, or Elogies; I am not worthy of them, I will have no other Epitaph than these words only. Hic jacet Jacobus Secundus.

The

The Parish Priest asked him according to the Rubrick of the Ritual, if he did believe that, That was the true Body of *Jesus Christ*; He answer'd with Stedfastness and lively a Faith, *That he believ'd it with all his Heart, and that it was his greatest Joy that he died in the Bosom and Faith of the Church.*

Monsieur Bennet not knowing the imminent Danger of the King's Sickness, did not speak to him of the Sacrament of *Extrême Unction*. Father Sanders his Confessor spoke to him of it in *English*; He presently elevated his Voice and said, *That he earnestly desired to receive this Sacrament, and to be fortified with all the Helps of the Church.*

The Curate administred it to him, Suggesting to him, to make Acts of Contrition for the Sin which he might have committed by each of his Senses. His Piety and Devotion inspired them into him, and he disposed himself to receive worthily the Holy Oyls.

Monsieur Bennet the Curate spoke to the King in this last Action, with so much Prudence and Unction of Spirit, that the *Protestants* themselves were edified: He exhorted His Majesty to offer up
his

his Sickneſs to our Saviour, and to lift up his Heart to him : He answered, *I do it without Ceasing* : Father Sanders asked him, for the Edification of thoſe that were by, if he were in Peace with all the World ; and whether any thing troubled him ? He answered, *I enjoy a profound Peace* : During the Holy and ſad Ceremonies, and amidſt the Tears of all the Court, he always retained an admirable and wholly Chriſtian Firmneſs and Conſtancy ; the Queen ſtaid all the time, proſtrated at her Prayers, near the King's Bed, abſorpt in Sorrow, begging of the Sovereign Phyſician, the recovery of her dear Huſband, but was obliged to withdraw.

Aſtewards the King ordered, That her Royal Highneſs his Daughter ſhould come, that he might give her his Bleſſing ; He recommended almoſt the ſame things to her, He had done to the Prince of *Wales* ; *To fear God, and ſerve him all the Days of her Life, to reſpect and obey the Queen her Mother* : He gave her in theſe laſt Moments particular Marks of the Tenderneſs he had for her. Her Royal Highneſs received them, Pierced with ſo great a Grief, that the abundance of her Tears, drew likewise thoſe of All there preſent.

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His

His Majesty seeing the Popes Nuncio come into his Chamber, shew'd very great Joy, and spoke to him with a strong Voice, as a Man wholly transported with the Motions of his Fervor. Sir, *I am glad to see you, That I may make in your Presence the Profession of my Faith.* He made it with a Voice as strong as if he had been in full Health, and afterwards added:

I pray you assure the Pope of my profound Respects; Tell him, That I die a Child of the Church, and if it should please God to give me Life, I would serve him and the Church, better than I have done.

The Fever had some Interval, but the Ninth the King had a Drowsiness upon him, which made his Physicians afraid of a Lethargy. They apply'd to him Cupping-Glasses, and many other Remedies: The twelfth Day of his Sicknes the Fever becoming more violent; and the Fits more frequent the Paleness of Death in the Evening appeared upon his Face: It was thought he was going to expire; the Queen, who scarce ever left him in this sad Condition, dissolved her Self in Tears; and kissed his hand.

The King said to her, *Adieu Madam, Do not afflict your self for me, I am going*
to

*to be Happy : The Queen answered him,
It's not you that I weep for, and that I la-
ment, It's my Self.*

*The King reply'd, Do not trouble
by your Sorrow the Peace and Joy where
God doth place me.*

Which He repeated several times, that very moment ; she was so far transported with Sorrow, That it was judged convenient, even to take her by Force out of the Chamber. Afterwards, the first time were made the Prayers for the Recommendation of the Soul. The approaches of Death caused not in this Holy Combatant, who was entred the Lifts with her, any Fear ; He had been many years ago familiar with her, having learn'd by his own Experience, That the World was nothing but Vanity ; He had wholly weaned his Heart from it ; He only breath'd and sigh'd after Heaven ; His only Entertainment was with God, and when he spoke, it was of the Happiness of the next World, which he did with the most moving Expressions, and worthy of his Piety ; His Confidence in God, who is the only Protector of Widows and Orphans, made him not have the least uneasiness, in regard to his Royal

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Family ; He doubted not, but the King of *France*, with whom he had found so Sweet, so Constant, and so Honourable a Sanctuary, would take as much Care of His, as of his own.

It was upon this Bottom, that this Holy King, wholly employing his Thoughts upon Eternity, seem'd to have forgot the Earth, being a continual Meditations and Contemplation ; His Slumbering had none of that stupid Heaviness, which is the ordinary consequence of it ; He was easily waked out out of it, and when he was Desired to say some Prayers, which he often did of himself ; His Attention was as quick and lively, as if he had been in Health, when they spoke to him of the great Pain which he felt from the violent Remedies were applyed to him.

He said, *That his Soul had suffered long ago, and that it was now just, that his Body should share in it's Sufferings.*

My Lord Bishop of *Autun*, whose great Respects and great Inclinations, to serve their *Britannick* Majesties, is well known to all the World : Being come to *Paris* during the King's Sickness, came presently to *St. Germans*, and being

ing come near his Bed, took the Liberty to tell him, That every moment was precious, that one of them ought not to be lost, since they might gain him Eternal Glory. This Holy King told him, *That it was his Intention, to make the best of them to gain Eternity.*

As they endeavoured to keep this Prince waking, for fear his Distemper might turn into a Lethargy. The Bishop said: Sir, May I take the Liberty to ask Your Majesty, whether you know him, who has the Honour to speak to you?

The King answered, *It's my Lord Bishop of Autun, my Good Friend.*

My Lord said, Sir, I am Commissioned by the whole Community of Chaillot, to Present their profound Respects to Your Majesty, and to assure you, That they are continually prostrate at the Feet of the Altar, to beg of God your Recovery. He answered, *I am fully perswaded, that I share in their Prayers, and I desire their Continuation.* We ought not to forget to observe here the perfect Act of Obedience of the Queen.

Some

Some People of a distinguished Merit, upon what they had heard spoken to the King, obliged by a Principle of Conscience, the Queens Confessor, to Desire her to go out of the Chamber, fearing that the great Transport of Grief, in which she was, might cause too sensible an Emotion in the Heart of this Prince, which might be opposite to the Sanctity, of the Sacrifice which God required of him, and might trouble that profound Peace whose Sweetness he tasted, and in some measure, to moderate the Excess of her Grief.

This Pious Princess obey'd, tho' with extream Regret and Violence to her self, with the bitterest Circumstances; for being in a Closet near the King's Chamber, the Door being open, she heard every Motion that was made, and not being able to Distinguish exactly, she interpreted always in a fatal manner for her self: If any went to the King's Bed to Assist him, she imagined he was Giving up the Ghost; if they were silent, she imagined he was Dead; she was, as we may say, in a manner, wasted and spent by her Sorrow, and Anxiety, and asked every Moment, if they would not permit her to approach the King, and to pay him her last

last *Devoirs*; afterwards being with-held by a Motive of Conscience, in regard to what the King had said to her, She stopped, and continued in this violent State a considerable time. The Place where she was, being at last discover'd by the Popes Nuncio and the Curate of *St. Germans*, they told her, that she might take the Satisfaction of seeing the King, who was something better; She would not take it, till her Confessor assured her she might do it without Displeasing God, if she would restrain her self; she promised she would not Weep, but be Mistress of her self; she did what she could, but her Heart somewhat betray'd her Resolutions.

Tuesday, about five a Clock in the Morning, ten Days after he had Received the Holy *Viaticum* for the first time, as if the Spirit of God, which always Conducted him, had let him know, that about that term of Time, one might Reiterate the Holy Communion again as a *Viaticum*, he desired it two or three times; *Monsieur*, the Curate, being willing to know from himself his Desire, and the fit Condition he was in to have it, came to his Bed-side to be the better Assured of it. Then His Majesty said to him,

I have a great Desire to Receive in the State I am in, I have need of Strength and Patience, and Where shall I find it but in the Body of Jesus Christ?

These are the very Words; He Declared publicly, That he had forgot the first time he Received the Holy *Viaticum*, to make before the World an Act of Pardon for all his Enemies; which he then did with all his Heart, Naming the Prince of *Orange*, the Princess of *Denmark* his Daughter, and the Emperour, freely Forgiving them all the Afflictions they had Created him.

He spoke often, during his Sickness, to the *Protestant* Officers, to Exhort them to become *Catholicks*; telling them, That the Consolations which he felt, could be no where found but in the True Religion: He Named them every one by their Name, Conjuring them to think seriously upon their Salvation. He Recommended to them the same Fidelity for the Prince, his Son, and the Queen, as they always had for him.

For the Catholicks, I am sure, says he, they will not fail, I know their Principles; I Recommend to the Protestants to let themselves be instructed. After-

Afterwards addressing himself to my Lord Duke of Perth, the Governour of the Prince of Wales, He spoke to him with a great deal of Goodness, giving him his Hand. *My Lord, I recommend to you my Son ; I have given him a good Governour.*

Some Persons of Quality were permitted sometimes to come into his Chamber, to see their King. His Majesty perceiving a Gentleman, a near Relation of a Scotchman, who died a Religious of *La Trappe*.

He called my Lord Perth, and said to him, *I see N. M. tell him, That I conjure him to Reflect seriously upon the State, and Condition that he sees me in : It's neither my natural Courage, nor my own Strength that supports me among so many Ills, and so many Sufferings ; and nothing but true Faith that can do a thing that bears so little Proportion with my Strength. Tell him, I would have him to quit all worldly Prospects of Honour and Vanty, which hinder him from being a Catholick. It's his Dying King that makes him this Exhortation.*

Two Days before his Death, the King of France, who had sent every
G Day

Day to inform himself of the State of his Health, and had made him two Visits in less than eight Days, came to make him his last Visit: One cannot Express the Care, the Diligence, Humanity, and Tenderness of this Great Monarch; for our poor Court in such a sad and afflicting Conjuncture, it's most Just, and it's our Duty to Publish here, to the immortal Praise of His most Christian Majesty, That since these Thirteen Years that the Court of *England* has taken its Refuge in *France*, he has always Treated them with the same Respect, the same Caresses, the same Consideration as at the very first Day, without omitting the least Thing. A rare Example, and it may be the only of so Faithful a Friendship, and so Constant a Protection.

His Majesty went to the Queens Chamber, and Declared to her, That he was Resolved, if it was the Will of God to dispose of the King, her Husband, to Acknowledge the Prince of *Wales* for King of *England*. The Queen made the young Prince be called, to Thank the King; After having Saluted him at his Entrance, he turned himself towards the Queen, whom he had not seen since the Morning of the foregoing Day, and finding

finding her bathed in Tears, he cast his Arms about her Neck; the King mingled his Tears with theirs; the Prince being not to be withdrawn, but with Difficulty, from between her Arms, she told him that which the King came to Declare in his Favour. His most Christian Majesty taking up the Discourse, added,

Sir, you are going to loose the King, your Father, but you shall always find One in Me, and I'll look upon you as my own Child.

The Prince casting himself at the King's Feet, Answer'd him;

I shall always, Sir, have for Tour Majesty, the same Respect that I have for the King, my Father; I'll never forget the Obligations I have, and I'll never fail all my Life, and in every Place to pay You all sorts of Acknowledgments.

The King, who presently took up the Prince, Embracing him, was Charmed with his Quickness and presence of Mind, and with the great Grace with which he paid him his Thanks; He has often spoke of it since, much to his Praise.

This young Prince being gone out of the Queen's Appartment, my Lord Perth, his Governour, who knew nothing of what had passed, asked him what the King said to him. He answered him with a wonderful and surprising Presence of Mind: *My Lord, The King has ordered me not to tell any Body whatsoever, and I will not tell you a word, for I will obey him in every thing.*

In the mean time, His most Christian Majesty being gone into the next Chamber, came near the King of England, stooped down, and that he might be the better heard: The Courtiers beginning to withdraw out of Respect: The King told them, *That he would have every Body to hear.*

I am come, says he, to know how Your Majesty do's, and to assure you, That if God dispose of Your Majesty, I'll Acknowledge and Treat the Prince your Son, as King of England; And I'll have always the same Regard, or Consideration for him, that I had for you; and Desire to see him Treated as such by all the World.

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At the same time, was rais'd a confused Noise of Praises, Applauses, Weeping, which hindred the distinct Hearing of the Thanks, which his *Britannick* Majesty gave him; and the King of *France* tending a Second time, and being not able to contain his Tears, bid the Sick King Adieu, and withdrew. All the *English* Lords re-conducted His most Christian Majesty, with Acclamations and Tears, which equally evidenced their Affection, and their grateful Acknowledgments for this Great King, who came to do one of the most Generous and Heroick Actions in the World. Some cast themselves at his Feet to kiss them, others lift up their Hands to Heaven to thank God, for having inspired His most Christian Majesty with so seasonable a Consolation, which was so necessary for them, and to Preserve for them, (in Comforting them) the Life of the Queen, to be their Protectress, and the Angel Guardian of the Royal Family, and of the Subjects.

In short, their Transport was such, That neither the sad Object of the dying King, nor the August Presence of the most Christian Kings could repress their Sallies. The King of *England*

land passed the rest of the Afternoon in great Tranquility; that Night about two a Clock, a violent Fit had like to have carried him off. The following Fits were more frequent, and more dangerous till *Friday*; and he was thought to be often upon the Point of expiring. The Recommendation of the Soul, and other Prayers of the Church were often reiterated; His Majesty had his Sences and Understanding perfect to the very last; He had his Speech free and very distinct; He spoke but seldom, and only as much as was necessary to make answer; His Conversation was already in Heaven, and he seemed as if he had a foretast of it: Above all was admired his Patience; His perfect Resignation; His Tranquility, and a sort of a surprizing Joy, there never fell from him the least thing that could be observed of any Repugnance, that he had for the different and frequent Remedies that were given him, nor the least complaint of his Pains; He suffered all with an inexpressible Sweetness, and when he was asked how he felt himself, he said, *I am Well*. Every Body being astonished, knowing how much he suffer'd; He gave them this fine Answer, *To bemoan one's Self is not to suffer.*

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In short, it may be affirmed for certain, That during all his Sickness, His Majesty neither did nothing, nor said any thing that was unbecoming the Character of a King, a Confessor, and a Penitent; His Countenance was steddily, Grave, and Majestical, even in the Arms of Death it self, whose finishing Blow he expected, with an Heroical Constancy, and a great Confidence in the Mercy of God, without any Uneasiness or Impatience, than that of uniting himself to Him.

On the Thirteenth, His Majesty saw the Prince of *Wales*, and his Royal Sister the last time, and recommended anew to the Prince, to be Faithful to God and his Religion, always obedient to the Queen, and to remember all his Life the Obligations he had to the King of *France*; the Fourteenth being the Day of the Exaltation of the *Holy Cross*, or *Holy Rood-Day*. Monsieur *Bennet* Entertained the King upon the Subject of the Festival, and with the Spirit that we ought to assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass: He answered, *That he had always had a particular Devotion for this Feast*; and that his Application was to offer up himself

self as a Sacrifice to God, during the Sacrifice of *Jesus Christ*: In effect, it was observed, That even the two last days of his Life, his Attention during the Holy Mass, was as great as if he had not been the least Sick. This same day the Queen was a long time near the King's Bed, without his perceiving it, for he had his Eyes shut, opening them, he said to her, *Madam, I knew not that you were here, How do you?* Sir, answered the Queen, I would be here Night and Day if you would permit it, for it would be my greatest Satisfaction to serve you; what would you have me to do? *That which you shall judge best for me, and for your Self,* answered the King.

The Queen asked him if his Pains were not great: He answered, *Yes, I suffer, and that very much, but it's to see you suffer, for as for my Self, I am Content;* and a little after, He desired her to retire; am I troublesome to you, says the Queen? *Not at all, Madam, But it's to the End you may be more at your Ease;* for he knew the Queens Heart, and how much She suffered, to see him in that Condition: The Fifteenth, The King began to pronounce his Words with some Difficulty; He asked all that Day, from half

half hour to half hour, that the Prayers might be said for those in the Agony of Death; with the Litanies of the Saints, the Seven penitential Psalms, and some other Prayers.

He was seen all that time to move his Lips, for he gave continual Attention. Friday the Sixteenth, about eight a Clock in the Morning, Mass was said to him in his Chamber according to Custom; His Spirits were, as we say, re-animatèd, while these Holy Mysteries were Celebrated, and near the Agony he beat his Breast, at the *Agnus Dei*, or *Lamb of God*, &c. *That taketh away the Sins of the World, have Mercy*, &c.

He afterwards desired, That the Prayers might be said for obtaining a happy Death, at which Prayers he had been usèd to assist every Friday, with great Devotion. He grew extreemly weak about ten a Clock.

Monsieur the Curate of St. Germans presented him often the Crucifix, His Eyes being fixed upon the Cross, followed it in every different place where it was put, to discover, whether his Knowledge was perfect, and when it was brought near him, He kissed it with that Ardor, that

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his Lips almost stuck to it; an evident Mark of the Love and Fervor of his Heart.

To conclude, This Holy King fell into a sweet Agony about half an hour after Ten, and at the same hour (as it's supposed) that our Saviour suffered, a Favour, that he had most Ardently begged, and went to take Possession of an immortal Crown, which cannot be taken from him by Usurpers. We ought not to omit, that during the Course of his Sickness; He often asked Absolution of his Confessor, and desired him never to leave him, that he might be ready to give it him in the last moment of his Life, which was done according to his Desire. For the Physician feeling his Pulse, made a Sign to the Confessor, That it was time, which he having given him, My Lord, the Popes Nuncio gave him the Apostolical Benediction on behalf of the Pope, according to the Order, which he had received from his Holiness for that Purpose. This was in the 68th. Year of his Age, after having Reigned Four years in *England*, and having had his Abode near Thirteen years in *France*.

It was observed, That he died with a smiling Countenance, which appeared visibly after he was Dead. A little while after the Pope's Nuncio went to salute the young King, (as they call him) Declaring to him formally, That he had Orders from his Holiness to Acknowledge him King of *England*. And Abbot *Risni*, the Envoy of *Modena* paid him the same Complement on behalf of the Duke his Master.

As there never was a more perfect, and more Christian Union than that between the King and the Queen, which many years since had been their mutual Consolation; there likewise never was a more bitter Sorrow, though at the same time the Resignation of this Princess was entire and compleat. The Queen Saluting the young King her Son (as they call him) said to him, Sir, I acknowledge you for my King, but I hope you will not forget that you are my Son; and being wholly penetrated with Grief, and the most sensible Affliction, she was carried in a Chair from her Appartment, to her Coach to go to *Chailot*, where she would not receive the Visits, or the Complements of any Person whatsoever.

The same Day about Six a Clock in the Evening, the Body of the late King was expos'd to publick View in the same Chamber where he was Dead. The Clergy of the Parish; the religious *Recollects*, and the *Augustins* came to say their Prayers, and Sung the *Dirge* all Night till Morning, then Masses were begun to be celebrated upon two Altars, which were Erected in the same Chamber, and were continued till Noon. About Four a Clock his Body was Opened and Embalmed, in the Presence of the principal Officers and Physicians: As to what regards the Causes of his Death, they found many Mortal ones; a great quantity of *Serofities* in his Head; the Veins that convey the Water, a third part greater than ordinary; two Ulcers in his Stomach, and extravasated Blood in his Body, his Heart was much decay'd.

The Opinion that every Body had of the Sanctity of this Prince was so great, that they crowded at the opening of his Body, to have pieces of Linnen dipped in his Blood; the Guards took their Cravats from about their Necks, and their Handkerchiefs for this pious Use, which they kept as precious Reliques.

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The Evening he was carried to *Paris* in a Mourning Coach, Accompanied with two others, in which were the Officers of his Majesty, his Chaplains, and Monsieur *Bennet*, the Prior and Curate of *St. Germans*: The Guard *Du Corps* carried Torches of white Wax. His Body was Deposed in the Church of the *English Benedictins*, in the Suburbs of *St. James's Paris*, till a Convenience may be had of conveying it into *England* to be Buried at *Westminster*, where are the Tombs of his Ancestors: His Heart was carried to the Monastery of the Visitation, of *St. Mary of Chailot*, where is that of the Queen his Mother.

All that we have told you, most Honour'd Sisters, is drawn word by word out of the Relations which were sent us: We are now going to give you an Account of the manner with which we received the Heart of this great Prince; we had taken the Liberty to beg it of himself while he was alive; He promised it us if he died in *France*; we did our utmost during his Sickness, that we might not loose so rich a Treasure. But the Goodness of the Queen prevented us; She took the Courage to put the
King

King in mind of his Promise; it was brought to us the 15th. of *September* at two a Clock in the Morning, by the same Convey that carried his Body to *Paris*.

The King had given Orders to *Monsieur de Grange*, Master of the Ceremonies of *France* who Conducted it: That the Bells should not be Rung, that neither Coach nor Horsemen should come near the first Court of our Monastery, that all things should be managed so privately, that the Queen who was there might know nothing of it. The Community with Torches in their Hands being in the Quire, where was made ready before the Grate a little Tabernacle, covered with black Velvet, surrounded with Torches. *Mr. Ingleton* His Majesties Chaplain, and Sub-Preceptor of the King his Son; now *James III.* (as they call him) coming to the Grate, put into the Hands of our most Honoured Mother the Royal Heart, saying to her, I present you most religious Lady, one of the most precious *Depositum's* that the Church has produced these many Ages, and that future Ages can produce. I bring you the Heart of the most High; most Mighty, most Excellent Prince *James II.* King of *Great Britain*, At the same time that his
Soul

*Soul cleansed of all Stains and Spots,
(to make use of the words of the Church)
is offered to his Creator by the Hands of
the Holy Angels.*

It's that Heart in which God has made to Triumph the Miracles of his Grace, in which an ardent Charity, a persevering Piety, and unshaken Faith, have always vanquished and erected Trophies, even among the sharpest Tryals of his greatest Misfortunes: As he was not softened, or effeminated in the midst of the most flattering Grandeurs, so he never suffered himself to be dejected and cast down by the most afflicting Crosses, and to use once more the Expressions of the Church. *This Heart in the midst of humane Vicissitudes, was fixed where only true Joy is to be found.*

This pious and holy King trampling upon the Goods of this World, had only those which are Eternal in his View; like an impregnable Fortress, He sustained the Attack of the most astonishing Revolutions, and vanquished them by his Patience; He was humble upon the Throne; His Fortitude and Courage supported him in his Exile; as he was not puffed up amidst the Tumult of Arms, and
the

the Applauses of so many Victories; so He could not be cast down in the middle of the Horrors of Rebellion, and a Deluge of Afflictions. Let others extoll as much as they please the Valour, with which he so often trampled over his Enemies; I admire above all his Christian Generosity, with which, during his Life, and at his Death, He Pardoned so many Enemies, who so unjustly and cruelly Persecuted him.

Let others Consider him, as mounting the Throne to Maintain the Rights of him by whom Kings do Reign; I look upon him as more Worthy of Admiration, when for the Love of *Jesus Christ*, and for the Defence of his Church, he made a Sacrifice of his Crown, and laid it at the Feet of the Crucifix.

To say all in a Word, this Prince seem'd to be Destinated to make to Shine with Lustre, the Victorious Grace of the Omnipotent, as well in Adversity as in Prosperity, and we may justly apply to this Heart, truly Royal, that which the Wise Man says, *The Heart of the King is in the Hand of God, and he will incline and bend it whither he will.*

I Congratulate therefore with you, most Chast Spouses of *Jesus Christ*, and Admire at the same time the Goodness of God, who after having given you the Heart of the Queen, Mother of this Holy King, has made you also this more precious Present.

These Happy Souls are, without doubt, at present United in the Bosom of God, as their Hearts are in this holy House; and may we reasonably hope that this Great Treasure which you Possess, will draw down Blessings upon you, as the Ark of the Covenant did upon the Houses where it was Lodged.

Keep therefore this Sacred Pledge, as of one that is to be the Protector of your Community, and let it not be only Inclosed within your Walls, but let it find an Eternal *Habitation* in your *Hearts*.

Our most Honoured Mother Answer'd very near in the following Words; Sir, we Receive with a Veneration, and a profound Acknowledgment; The Precious *Depositum* which the Queen has done us the Honour to Confide
I with

with us; We do not look upon this Royal Heart only. as the Remains of a Great Prince, who has Honoured us with his Friendship, but as the Reliques of one Predestinated. We do not in the least doubt, but that God has already Received Him into His Glory; That he has Crowned him with a Crown of Immortal Glory; This Just Man, who has Sacrificed all to him by the Greatness of His Faith, and the Fervour of His Love. In the mean time, our Community which are here present, and those which shall Succeed us in future Ages, shall never cease to Pay their Devoirs, by continual Vows and Prayers, as we have done till this Time for the late Queen his Mother, of Happy Memory, and for the August Honour of *England*, for which we Acknowledge our selves to have an Immortal Obligation.

Afterwards we Sung the *Libera* and the *de Profundis*, with the Prayer for the Departed King, we went in Procession, Singing the *Miserere* to the Tribune where the late Queen of *England*'s Heart Reposes, near which, we placed that of her August Son, and under the same Canopy, there to Remain till our Church be Finished.

There

There yet remains, our most Honour-
ed Sisters, for to Compleat your Ex-
pectation, to joyn to this, a Relation
of what passed in Regard to the Queen,
after the Death of the King, and
what she did the three Days she staid
here.

Her Majesty could not stay here a-
ny longer Time, because of the King's
departure for *Fontain Bleau*; and the
Prince and Princess her Children had
need of her Presence.

We have already Remarked, that when
this Afflicted Princess was obliged to Re-
tire from the King, her Husband, in
his last Extremity, she was in her Cham-
ber, in Prayers and Tears, knowing
that he was in his Agony. The Re-
verend Father *Ruca*, her Confessor,
came to see her, and Proposed to her
to Offer up some Prayers for the
King, and at the same time, began,
Subvenite Sancti Dei, &c. upon which
the Queen Cried out, O my God, is it
then done? And prostrating her self
upon the Earth, she poured out a Tor-
rent of Tears, and remained a consi-
derable Time without being able to
speak a Word. The Reverend Father

Exhorted her to submit her self to the Will of God ; all that she could do, was to pronounce often the Word *Fiat*, Let it be done, without *Voluntas Tua*, Thy Will, which at last she did ; and after having Saluted her Son, as we have related above, she took Coach to come hither.

Her Majesty arrived here about 3 Quarters after Five a Clock, when we had just ended the Devotion of the Forty Hours Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, which my Lord Cardinal *de Noaille*, our Arch-Bishop, had permitted us and our Monastery at *Paris*, to do in the Extremity of the late King ; We were all in our Ranks at the Gate of the Cloyster, only speaking by our Tears ; She came in, having her Face covered with her Hood, without saying a Word, till one of our Sisters, in whom she had a perfect Confidence, said to her, Kissing her Hand, these Words of the Psalmist, *My Soul, Will you not be subject to God ?* And these other Words of the same Prophet, *My God, it is thy Will it should be so.*

Her Majesty answer'd, fetching a deep Sigh, *Fiat Voluntas tua*, Thy Will be done. Our Reverend Mother said,
That

That she was happy in being the Wife of such a Saint, who in all probability already Enjoy'd God. Yes, answer'd the Queen, We have a Great Saint in Heaven; I believe it without doubt, by Reason of the Virtues I have seen him Practice.

She was Conducted into the Choir, and all the Community followed her; She fell upon her Knees and prostrated herself a long time; She was Presented with a Reliquary, in which, was a piece of the True Cross, which she clapt close to her Breast.

She was so Weak because she had Eat nothing all Day, that it was propos'd to her to be carried in a Chair to her Appartment; but her Majesty refus'd it; That is without doubt, Madam, said one of our Sisters to her, to imitate our Saviour, who was not carried to Mount Calvary, but Ascended it, loaden with his Cross.

She seem'd to Relish this Thought in passing by the Chappel of our Holy Founder, * which is near it; she kneeled before the Altar, where she remain'd some time in Prayer, which she did also in her Chamber, before
the

* St Francis of Sales

the Crucifix of the late Queen, her Mother-in-Law, which is upon the Table; her Majesty did not get up, but at our humble Entreaty to take a little Rest.

Our Reverend Mother, and some of our Sisters, staid with her, making from time to time Acts of Faith, and Conformity to the Will of God, to which she Acquiesced by Signs of her Head and Eyes, which she lifted up to Heaven, joyning her Hands together, and drawing of Sighs that pierced the Hearts of those that had the Honour to be with her; for never was so Sharp, so Deep, and so Strong a Sorrow; but it was Modest, Wise, and Submissive to the Decrees of God.

And when she was told, That she ought to Comfort her self with the Hope that the King was in Possession of Eternal Glory; she said,

I cannot doubt of it; The Condition that I find my self in, is a Sign of the Power that His Holy Soul has with God, for I could never have believed, that I could have been able to Survive my Sorrow.

Her

Her Majesty asked whether the Community would not upon this Occasion, cause Publick Prayers to be said? She was answer'd, That they were then Singing the Vespers of the Dead, that at Night they would say the great Vigils, and in the Morning, and several Days following, they would have Masses till Mid-Day.

The same Day, about seven a Clock at Night, her Majesty sent to our Reverend Mother, to ask leave for her Confessor to come to her, adding that she Desired, that it might be Granted for every day, that she had occasion; and that Mass might be said in the inner Chappel of our Holy Founder, which joyned to her Appartment; (according to the leave which our Archbishops had given her; if Her Majesty should happen to be indisposed.)

After that this Reverend Father had entertained her a little while in Discourse, he said with her, and the Ladies of her Train, the Prayers which have been every Day offered up in this Court since their Misfortunes, with the *Rosary*, to which Her Majesty joyned the Office of the Dead. We can assure your *Charities*.

That

That all the three Days, that Her Majesty stay'd here, She did nothing but Pray and hear the Reading of holy Books, and sometimes hear Discourses, of the Vertues of the Holy King. The Nights themselves did not interrupt those Pious Exercises; there were always near Her Majesty some of our Sisters, who pick'd out proper Subjects to Comfort her, out of the Holy Scripture; the Father's and our Holy Founder, which she relished very much.

This vertuous Princess never interrupted the Reading, neither to lament or solace her Self. Her Heart under the Pressures of her Grief, left her Soul free to make her Application to God; speaking in Confidence of her present Disposition. She said: *God had given her the Grace to Consent freely to the Sacrifice which Himself was pleased to order her to make; That she found her self so Disposed, that she would not be willing to utter a word that might displease God, if in speaking it, she might restore the King her Husband to Life.*

She said another time before She Communicated: *I think, that in this Communion*

our

our Saviour comes to give himself to me, to fill up the Vacancy which himself has been pleased to make : I give my self with all my Heart to him, that he may Dispose of me as he pleases ; adding, *What would I have in Heaven, or in Earth, but thou, O the God of my Heart, my Portion, and my Inheritance for ever.*

There was not observed the least Imperfection in the Conduct, and Words of this afflicted Soul ; all her Motions were always directed by the Order and Will of God. There was read once to Her the *Circular Letter* of the Reverend Mothers *Carmelites* of the great Convent of *Paris*, of the Vertues of the Venerable Mother, *Ann Mary of Jesus*, called before she took the Habit, *Mademoiselle Deperrion*, departed a while ago in the Opinion of Sanctity, whom the late King, and Her Majesty knew very well ; whom they Honour'd with their Esteem, and frequent Visits. Her Majesty heard with great Attention, and made several excellent Remarks upon her Vertues, and when they came to that Passage, where it is said, That this great Servant of God, preferred the Quality of being an humble Religious Woman, before that of being

K

Queen

Queen of Poland. Her Majesty said : *Ab*
She had a great deal of Reason on her side ;
there is no Demur to be made in the Choice,
when we are at Liberty to make it.

She stay'd here from *Friday* at Night,
 till *Monday* five a Clock, without see-
 ing any Body : The King had Command-
 ed the *Exempt* of the Guards to let
 none come in. Our Monasteries of *Pa-*
ris and *Melan*, sent to Her Majesty to
 pay her their profound Respects, and to
 assure her of their Prayers, which she
 took very kindly, and gave them par-
 ticular Marks of the Amity, with which
 she Honoured them; Your *Charities* have
 observed, that the Heart of the late
 King was brought us at the time that
 the Queen was here, and that our Great
 Monarch had forbid us to give her any
 Account of this Ceremony, nor to do
 any thing that might let it come to
 her Knowledge.

But the same Night that we received
 this precious Treasure, as if she had felt
 the approaches of this Heart, to whom af-
 ter God, she had given her own entirely ;
 she was in a continual Agitation of Un-
 easiness and Pains, which she said, *She*
her Self could not Express. The morrow
 after, she asked several times, when the
 Heart

Heart of the late King was to be brought us ; We were in the greatest Concern and Trouble imaginable, how to obey the Queen without Displeasing her. We advised with her Confessor, to know what Answer to return, in Case Her Majesty should order us to tell it without any Evasion : He said, he was going to prepare the Queen to receive the Blessed Sacrament for the Day following ; That he would tell her in General, to abstain from Speaking, or even of Thinking of any thing but God ; and you shall see, say's he, She'll ask you no more Questions, which proved true, for the rest of the Day and the morrow after, even to the moment she went away, she did not speak at all of it, and not so much as named it. Her Majesty Communicated in the Chappel near her Chamber ; She prepared her self to it, and afterwards pay'd her Devotions of Thanksgiving, as a Person absorbed in God.

The same Day after Dinner, my Lord Cardinal *de Noailles* came to Visit her, he Entertained her apart, and said in going out, *That he had never seen a more piercing Sorrow, nor a greater Vertue* : His Eminence was Conducted to the *Tribune*, to be shown the Heart of the late King,

K 2

near

near that of the Queen his Mother ; He pray'd a while, and retiring, he made an Elogy on the Deceased King.

In the mean time the Queen, who made her Self ready to go away, did us the Honour to tell us ; giving us Marks of her Royal Bounties and Goodness, that God who had known from all Eternity, the deplorable State to which she was reduced, had destinated our Establishment for her Consolation, as well as for that of the late Queen, her Mother-in-Law, to which She spoke in such moving Words, that we could not forbear weeping.

About Four a Clock Her Majesty was told, That her Coaches were ready, the Community came near her Apartment, to have the Honour of paying her their Respects, and Conducting her to the Gate ; it was at that moment, that she told us, She was fully resolved to pay her *Devoirs* to that good Heart which we had here, that She sensibly felt it was here, and that she would not go away till she had been with it. She clap'd her Hands together, and conjured us with Tears in her Eyes for the Love of God, not to deprive her of that Consolation ;
Promis-

Promising she would do nothing more than what they had seen her do. That it was she that had procured them the Heart, and all that could possibly Comfort her, would be to see it when she came hither. We thought we ought not to refuse her any thing that she so earnestly Desired. We asked her Pardon, that we had not Confessed at first, that we had so strict Orders from the King our Master; the King her Son, and my Lord Archbishop, that we durst not disobey them in it. If her Majesty would make this Sacrifice to our Saviour, to deny her Self in this, that it would be very acceptable to him. No said the Queen, I do not believe that God requires it at my Hand; I'll only pay it my Respects, offer up my Prayers and retire; She did as she promised.

After having pray'd in her Chamber before the Crucifix, and in the Chappel of *St. Francis of Sales*; Her Majesty went streight to the *Tribune*, whither the Community followed her; Ent'ring in, She would have presently gone to the Heart of the Holy King, but she stopped and said, We ought to begin with the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; She kneeled down, with her
Hands

Hands joyned together, and her Body bowed down to the ground, with admirable Piety and Devotion. Then the *de profundis* was said, and the Prayers for the Dead. Her Majesty staid till all was ended, then she approached the Credence, where the Heart was, with a profound Respect, and cast Holy Water upon it; and casting her Self upon her Knees, she kissed a-cross the Crape, the Vermillion Pix, or Casket, in which the Royal Heart is inclosed.

Afterwards she went out all in Tears with a profound Silence, and was obliged to Consent that she might be carried in a Chair to the Gate of the Cloyster, where she did us the Honour, to let us know the Regret she had to leave us so soon.

Word was sent us, That at her Arrival at St. Germans, her Grief was renewed, and so much encreased, that they were afraid she would die of it. The Day after the King made her a Visit; We cannot express the Tender and Sincere Compassion, that our great Monarch has had for this afflicted Queen; nor the grateful Acknowledgments she made upon every occasion; She did us the Honour to tell us in these very Words,

Words, *We can never enough acknowledge the great Obligations we have to the King; It's God that has inspired him with all that he has done for us; above all in this last Occasion, nothing is Greater, nothing more Generous and elevated; and he did every thing in so Tender and Obliging manner, that nothing can equal it.*

After this time, the Queen Honoured us with more frequent, Visits, to find with God in her Retreat, Assistance to support her in her Grief, which grows every Day greater. Several Persons of great Piety, have endeavoured to Contribute to her Consolation. The Reverend Father Bourdaloue, preaching here before Her Majesty, the Feasts of *All-Saints* and *Christmas*, brought in handsomely into his first Sermon, a short *Elogy* of the King of *England*, with a Discourse of the blessed Happiness of the Saints, of which we Piously believe he participates; and those few words, were as good as a Funeral Sermon: The Queen told us, *That it was the only Consolation that had sensibly touched her since her great Loss.*

Before the Death of this Great Prince, many Persons of great Merit did Predict, that his Sepulcher should become
Glorious

Glorious, and that he would be looked upon as a Saint. We see these Predictions already accomplished, by the publick Veneration of the People of *Paris*, and even of the most distant Provinces.

It has been writ to us, from above Fifty six Places, that at the same time, that they had the News of his Death, they felt a secret Inspiration of invoking him at the same time that he was pray'd for, and we have the Consolation of seeing Persons of all Ranks, come to do their Devotions in our Church, and to recommend themselves to this Holy King. They earnestly beg of us any thing that he made use of when he was alive; They look upon him as a Confessor, who has perfectly compleated the Character of the *Defender of the Faith*, formerly given the Kings of *England* by the *Apostolical See*.

Our Holy Father the Pope, has given an authentick Evidence of it himself, in a Discourse, which his Holiness made in the Consistory of the Cardinals, after his Death; We believe most Honour'd Sisters, it will be very acceptable to send you a Copy of it.

Vener

Venerable Brothers, *We bring you Tidings with our Sighs and Tears, of the most Grievous, and most Afflicting Death of James the Second, King of Great Britain, of glorious Memory, which as we could not bear, but with extream Sorrow; so we do not in the least doubt, but that you are sensibly touch'd with the great Loss, that the whole Christian Commonwealth suffers of a Prince truly Catholick, and of a true Son of the Church, and of a true Defender of the Faith, whom we can never enough Regret. But according to the Doctrine of the Apostles, We ought not to afflict our Selves for the Death of the Faithful as they do, who are not Illuminated with the bright Rays of Faith. The great Piety of the Deceased King, the Memory of which, neither future Ages, nor the latest Posterity can efface: His Heroical Contempt of human Grandeurs: The Sacrifice he made to Religion, of his Country, of his Riches, of his Kingdoms, and even of Life it self. In fine, His most Pious Death, in which he shew'd so much Fortitude and Constancy, gives just Reason to hope, that this most Religious Prince, after having been in his Life-time try'd like Gold in the Crucible, is now after his Death receiv'd into Heaven as an acceptable Holocaust: Nevertheless Charity*
L. obliges

obliges us to Offer up our Prayers to God, for the Soul of this Holy King, who has so well deserved of the Holy See, and to assist him with our Suffrages, which we our Selves have not omitted to do in Private, and which we purpose to do Publickly in Convenient time; by Solemn Obsequies in our Papal Chappel, after the Example of the Roman Pontiffs our Predecessors. But we cannot at the same time pass in Silence the greatest Generosity of our most Dear Son in Christ; Lewis King of France, so worthy of his great Heart, who after having received these many Tears past, with Equal Magnificence and Liberality, This same King, unjustly and wickedly forced out of his Kingdom, with the Queen his Spouse, and the Prince their Son, and has all along Protected them, and done them all imaginable good Offices of Tendernefs and Amity; And that which is yet more Glorious, he has notwithstanding the Difficulty of the present Conjunction, and without any Regard to his own Interests, Acknowledged publickly the Prince his Son, Educated in the Vertues of the King his Father, by our most Dear Daughter in Christ, Queen Mary, for lawful Heir of the Crowns of Great Britain, and to Strengthen him in the Design of strongly supporting of the Catholick Faith: Come what will. In which truly the
Zeal

Zeal and Greatness of Soul of the most Christian King, shines with so wonderful a Lustre, that our's and your Praises are justly Due to him, and Posterity will pay him the same Justice, as long as the Memory of so Noble an Action shall remain, which never ought to Perish, though perhaps the Rumour of it has already reached your Ears; We have notwithstanding, but now received the News by an Extraordinary Courier, which our Venerable Brother Anthony, Archbishop of Athens, who saw and heard all, Dispatched as soon as possible, which we thought fit to Impart to you, to the End it may be transmitted to future Generations. Observe and Acknowledge in this, Venerable Brethren, the Marks of the Love we have for you, it was at your Earnest Sollicitations, and pressing Instances, that we have loaded our Selves with a Weight, which in these troublesome and afflicting Time, becomes more and more Burthensome, and we hope also, That your Assistance will help us to support it.

His Holiness afterwards writ an Apostolical Brief to the young King of England (as they call him) to comfort him in his Affliction, which he looks upon, as that of all Christendom, which we do not think fit to Deprive your Charities of, so we send you an exact Copy.

To Our most Dear Son in Christ, James
the Illustrious King of Great Britain.

O UR most Dear Son in Jesus Christ,
Health and Apostolical Benedic-
tion. It would be in some measure, an
Injury to the Filial affection of Your
Majesty, to believe that any one can
equal the Greatness of Sorrow, which
you have conceived at the Death of Your
most Pious, and most Dear Father
James the Second King of Great Britain;
but though as to the *Devoirs* of Sorrow,
we willingly yield the Preference to the
tender Love of Your Majesty only;
Equity, or rather Charity obliging us to
do it, we cannot nevertheless express
with Words, nor even with Tears, how
much this great Loss which all the
World ought to lament, has filled our
Soul with Sadness, being sensibly touch-
ed with these Sentiments; we have
Assembled our Venerable Brethren, the
Cardinals of the *Roman Church*, to As-
sociate them to our Sorrow, to the End
that uniting themselves with us, upon
the occasion of this Subject of Sadness,
in which all the Church deeply shares,
we might Afflict our selves together;
for having lost in the Person of the late
King your Father, an Illustrious Orna-
ment

ment of the Christian Commonwealth;
 an invincible Defender of the Catholick
 Religion, and a most Faithful; and a most
 Devoted Son of the Holy Chair; And we
 did not give them leave to depart, till
 we had ordered, a Publick and Solemn
 Service, to beg of God eternal Rest, for
 the Soul of so great a King: In the
 the mean time these afflicting Thoughts,
 for the Death of a Person in every Re-
 spect so Illustrious, which have for some
 time taken Possession of our Souls, have
 at last, by the Inspiration of Divine
 Grace, produced a strong and proper
 Argument to sweeten our Sorrow; and
 also to allay yours for the Conso-
 lation which is found in the Divine
 Oracles, and in the Promises of God,
 presented themselves to us, which have
 given us a firm Confidence, that the
 Afflictions and Tribulation of the World
 serve to try the Faithful, and to work
 their Salvation; it's from thence that we
 have Learned, that we ought not to bemoan
 our selves, for that Death hath taken from
 us this Great King; since we ought to
 believe, that he who has suffered for his
 Religion, so Great, and so long Persecuti-
 ons, with so great Fortitude and Constan-
 cy of Soul, is gone to enjoy a far more
 happy Life, by the Merit of him in
 whose Death our's is swallowed up.

For

For this Reason we exhort you, Our most Dear Son to fill your Self with the same Hope, and to banish from your Soul all terrestrial Troubles, to submit your Self upon this occasion, to the Rules of right Reason, and to the impenetrable Judgments of God, and to Preserve the Memory of your Illustrious Father, in nothing so much as in the Example he has left of his Vertues, and particularly, of his great Piety and Devotion to God, and his constant Affection to the Catholick Truth; to which he always adhered, with so much Firmness and Greatness of Soul, which always supported him in the midst of the greatest Dangers. We have Reason to hope this from those Excellent natural Talents, which God has given you, which our Venerable Brother, *Philip Anthony* Archbishop of *Athens*, our Nuncio in *France* has given us oftner than once an Account of, and its this likewise we promise our Self, from the pious Cares that our most Dear Daughter *Mary* Queen of *Great Britain* continues to take of Your Education; as also from that wholly singular Affection, that our Dear Son, the most Christian King has for you, who believes with great Reason, that it's his Glory, after having Acknowledged you for King, to
 Assist

Assist you with his Counsels, worth the Grandeur of his Soul. In the mean time we will beg of the Source of all Consolation, a solid and true Felicity for Your Majesty, to whom we give most Cordially our Apostolical Benediction.

*Given at Rome, at St. Mary Majors,
under the Seal of the Fishers the 25th.
of October, 1701. and in the First Year
of our Pontificat.*

Our

Our Zeal for the Memory of this pious Monarch, made us very desirous that a Solemn Service should be done in our Church with his *Elogy*; Our most Honoured Mother had obtain'd of his Eminency, my Lord Cardinal *de Noailles*, that he would be pleas'd to be the Celebrator.

My Lord *Abbot of Roquettes*, the Nephew of my Lord of *Autun*, was to make the Funeral Oration, but he falling Sick we were forced to put it off till the years End, we hope at that time to give the World publick Marks of our Respects for this August Prince, whom we much Regret, to whom in the meantime we have paid our *Devoirs* according to our Customs, and continue our daily Prayers, with the Acknowledgment and Gratitude which we owe to his Memory.

We cannot end this Letter without giving your *Charities* hopes, that in time you shall see many Writings of Devotion by the late King, which the Queen has Collected and made Search for in in several Places, and given Orders to have them translated into our Language. Her Majesty has done us
the